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Engineering (231)724-6707 FAX (231)727-6904

Finance (231)724-6713 FAX (231)726-2325

Fire Department (231)724-6795 FAX (231)724-6985

Human Resources Co. (Civil Service) (231)724-6442 FAX (231)724-6840

Income Tax (231)724-6770 FAX (231)724-6768

Mayor's Office (231)724-6701 FAX (231)722-1214

Planning/Zoning (231)724-6702 FAX (231)724-6790

Police Department (231)724-6750 FAX (231)722-5140

Public Works (231)724-4100 FAX (231)722-4188

SafeBuilt (Inspections) (231)724-6715 FAX (231)728-4371

Treasurer (231)724-6720 FAX (231)724-6768

Water Billing (231)724-6718 FAX (231)724-6768

Water Filtration (231)724-4106 FAX (231)755-5290



West Michigan's Shoreline City
www.shorelinecity.com

## **News Release**

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For Immediate Release

Sharing Shoreline Drive Pilot About to Begin:
Public Invited to Preview Proposed Plans for Pilot Project

MUSKEGON, Mich. - July 19, 2022

To improve comfort and promote safety for pedestrian and bicyclists along Shoreline Drive, the City of Muskegon in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Transportation will be undertaking a pilot project to narrow Shoreline Drive as part of a temporary "road diet".

The pilot is intended to test ideas and try a variety of approaches on a temporary basis. "We know that speed kills and this is an easy road to drive fast on," said DPW Director Leo Evans, "While we understand that cars want to move through Muskegon, we also want to make sure that people can come to our downtown and waterfront and be safe. This pilot project is not permanent but is the first step in a long process of community engagement, conceptual design and master planning for the corridor.

An Open House will be held on Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to present Phase 1 of the Shoreline Drive Pilot Project on the Shoreline Drive Plaza of the VanDyk Mortgage Convention Center in downtown Muskegon from 4:00 – 7:00pm. Parking for the event is located in the lots across Shoreline Drive. If there is inclement weather, the open house will move indoors.

Meeting Location – https://goo.gl/maps/urFecwdRoG8ptDrA8

Parking – https://goo.gl/maps/wREGV3MNhWhdEwKV7

City of Muskegon, 933 Terrace Street, P.O. Box 536, Muskegon, MI 49443-0536 <a href="http://www.shorelinecity.com">http://www.shorelinecity.com</a>



West Michigan's Shoreline City www.shorelinecity.com

Single lane closures on each side of Shoreline Drive from 7<sup>th</sup> Street to Terrace Street are proposed using cones, pavement markings, barriers, and plants. A reduced roadway width is intended to improve the comfort level for pedestrians and bicyclists crossing the street and help slow traffic speeds without adding significant delays. Work on the project is expected to begin in the Fall of 2022 with exact dates still to be determined after incorporation of feedback from the public engagement hearing.

The closed lanes will be repurposed for bicycle commuters with a cycle track, outdoor seating, art, and other placemaking ideas. "As we have seen in other communities, these spaces can become places which attract people and dollars. There are a lot of exciting things happening in Muskegon. This project has the potential to be another catalyst that spurs investment in downtown," said Chris Zull of Progressive AE.

Community members interested in working with the City, MDOT, and consultant team to activate the closed lanes are encouraged to contact Dan VanderHeide at the City's DPW Department. During the temporary lane closures, traffic engineers will be studying traffic patterns, travel times, and other metrics to report on the effects of the pilot to community leaders.

Information on the project and opportunities to provide feedback will be available on the project website at <a href="https://www.muskegon-mi.gov/departments/planning/shoreline-drive-pilot-project/">https://www.muskegon-mi.gov/departments/planning/shoreline-drive-pilot-project/</a>. Displays and other information sharing that will be available at the public open house will be added to the website ahead of the meeting.